the terms to the extent of reducing the annual maintenance grant which Government were bearing for years. There was no possibility of anticipating this expenditure at the time of framing the budget last year. There is also the fact that the proposal for starting a University Union matured only from the beginning of this year. A sum of Rs. 1000 is necessary therefore in this connection and I hope the House would sanction the grant.

PRESIDENT: The motion before the House is that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 1000 under Demand X.—Public Health and Sanitation—for payment of rent for the building in which the Office of the Director of Public Health is now housed.

The motion was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XI—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INCLUDING WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE.

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 4,13,767 under the following heads:

(i) Repairs to rain damages to tanks and channels in the Kodayar Project—Rs. 18,900.

(ii) Repairing the buildings at Oolampara for the accommodation of the Armed Reserve- Rs. 17,000.

(iii) Expenditure on account of the P. W. D. Advisory Committee—Rs 1,860.

(iv) Additional grant for the Water Works and Drainage Scheme in the State Rs. 3,76,007.

I shall now explain the necessity for the grant under each of these heads.

Regarding the restoration and improvement of the tanks within the area commanded by the Kothayar Irrigation Project, a committee was constituted by Government. At the meeting of the committee held at Nagercoil on 16-9-39 they ear-marked the provision of Rs. 25,000 made in the budget for 1115 for certain works which were considered necessary by them. These works will be attended to with the sanctioned allotment of Rs. 25,000. It is now found that to complete works in about 40 different tanks which need repair owing to rain damages of Medom 1114, funds to the extent of Rs. 9,000 are required. Some additional damages were caused to some other tanks during rains of Thulam and Vrischigom 1115 and the estimates are being prepared to carry out these works. It is to meet this expenditure that a provision of Rs. 5,000 is now asked for. Some of the tank-beds have also to be acquired as the restoration of these tanks, are necessary for irrigating ayacut wet lands lying close by. The Government have ordered to acquire the necessary lands on payment of compensation charges. The charges amount to nearly Rs. 4,900. On the whole a sum of Rs. 18,900 is required for repairs due to rain damages to tanks and channels in the Kothayar project area,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. S. Doraswamy Aiyangar.]

With regard to repairing the buildings at Oolampara for the accommodation of the Armed Reserve, I have to point out that the permanent Armed Reserve in the Police Department which consisted of about 140 men was stationed in the Police Head-quarters Owing to the political unrest in the State a temporary reserve of 500 men was additionally recruited out of which about 128 men who formed the General Reserve were also accommodated in the Head-quarters. The accommodation there was found insufficient and congested and hence the reserve men were shifted to the Old Brigade Barracks. Since these buildings are found to be subsequently required for the use of the Travancore University that place has therefore to be vacated and accommodation found for the men in the Government buildings at Oolampara. The buildings there were found to be convenient with certain improvements to the building. As the works were urgent they were carried out and the reserve men shifted there. This has caused an expenditure of Rs. 11,000 and the works to be completed require about Rs. 6,000 more, As these improvements are essential and would render the buildings useful for a longer time, it is proposed to provide a sum of Rs. 17,000.

Regarding the third item, namely, the constitution of the P. W. D. Advisory Committee I may state that the committee has met once and two more meetings are proposed to be held during the year 1115. The meetings are proposed to be held in Trivandrum. A sum of Rs. 1,800 is necessary for meeting the expenditure under T. A. to members and another sum of Rs. 60 towards contingencies of the Convener's Office. This accounts for the grant asked for of Rs. 1,360.

As regards the last item I may state that Rs. 3,70,007 is needed for distribution to the various works in progress in connection with the several water supply schemes. The resent allotment of Rs. 82,876 for the Alleppey Water Works would be sufficient only for the discharge of the liabilities incurred on account of supply of pipes and fittings made and work done during last year and will not admit of taking up the necessary remaining works for the completion of the scheme this year itself. The Alleppey Water Works Sub-Division with the two Section Offices and their staff has been sanctioned only for the first six months of the year. It is now seen that it will take practically the whole of the year to complete the scheme and therefore a sum of Rs. 1,08,009 is required in addition for continuing the staff for the rest of the year and also to completely pay up the liabilities that has already been incurred in that connection.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : അഡ്വൈസറി ബോർഡിന്റെ ആലോചനയോടും അറിവോടും സമ്മതത്തോടുംകൂടിയാണോ ഈ ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥന കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ളത്?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMY IYANGAR : These were not brought before that board.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : അത് എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണെന്ന പ്ര സ്താവിക്കുവാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. M S. DORASWAMY AIYANGAR: The advisory board was set up for the year 1115.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ആംഡ് റിസർവിനെ ഭാഗമായു പയിക്കട്ടുള്ള കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതിനു പ്രത്യേകം വല്ല കാരണവുമുണ്ടോ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : No, Sir. For works in connection with the Alleppey Water Supply a provision of Rs. 8,000 is necessary for the continuance of the sub-division with the existing staff as also Rs. 1,00,000 for works in connection with the above project. Similarly with regard to the water supply project at Shencottah.

A sum of Rs. 18,000 out of Rs. 37,293 has to be set apart for paying certain liabilities which had unavoidably to be carried over to 1115. That relates to payments outstanding to certain companies for supply of fittings etc. To meet the expenditure under item " Works " an additional grant of Rs. 18,007 is needed.

The budget provision for the Nagercoil Water Supply is nearly Rs. 3,40,000 out of which a sum of Rs. 65,200 had to be adjusted on account of payments expected to be made in 1114 and consequently not provided for in the Budget for 1115. Under these circumstances the balance available is inadequate to maintain satisfactory progress of the works. Therefore a sum of Rs. 2,50,000 under the head 'Works and Tools and Plant' is necessary for the consolidation of works as well as for other items. On the whole the amount needed is Rs. 4,13,767. Out of this Rs. 3,76,000 is needed for the Water Works and Drainage schemes now in progress in the State.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Under what items payments for Water Works during last year have to be made this year at Nagercoil ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : The amount incurred for the high level reservoir has not been paid.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : May I know the amount required for that purpose ?

MR. M. S DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : Nearly Rs. 44,000.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Is there any other item for which payment has to be effected ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : It is the only item of liability for the last year.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know from the member whether under Article 244 of the Account Code he has submitted the surrender report at the end of last year ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : I want notice to answer that question.

PRESIDENT : This is not question time.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know from the Chief Engineer what was the amount which the department could have surrendered under that Article at the end of last year :

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MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: A sum of Rs. 74,000/- was I believe, surrendered last year.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the Chief Engineer what was the amount saved at the end of last year out of the aggregate final grant sanctioned for last year?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: Rs. 75,000.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know for what purpose the rest of the amount is now asked for?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: For purification and filteration plants.

	Rs.
Power House	57,200
	37,200
House distribution system	59,800
Providing roads	50
Completion of plants	2,500

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Am I to understand that in the coming year he will be able to purchase the complete pumping plants and also the special fumigating plants?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: This is not the total amount of the estimate.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: What was the total amount of the supplementary grant obtained by the department last year?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: I am not in a position to answer the question now.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether he is aware of any amount being obtained by the department under this item, supplementary grant, last year?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: I am not in possession of that information now.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: A point is raised by Mr. Padiyara Joseph kunju whether the Advisory Committee was consulted in the matter of supplementary grant. As a member of that Committee, with your permission, I think I can explain the position of the Committee as regards that point.

PRESIDENT: I do not quite follow the honourable member, What does the Honourable member want?

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: I am seeking your permission for the explaining the position of the Advisory Committee with regard to the supplementary demand.

PRESIDENT: I have no ruling to give on that point. If the rules permit, that may be put forward as part of his speech. How does the honourable member expect the President to give a ruling on this point?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I rise to a point of order.

ഒരു മെമ്പർ എന്നുള്ള നിലയ്ക്കാണോ അതല്ല ബോർഡിലെ കാര്യങ്ങൾ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള അവകാശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണോ സംസാരിക്കുന്നത്?

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Not that I require a ruling on the point. Because I am neither supporting nor opposing the demand. I was seeking the permission of the chair to make a statement. When the Committee met last time, the question of the supplementary grant was taken up. Then the Chief Engineer said that we had no power to go into the question and that the supplementary demand was put before the Committe only as a matter of courtesy. My colleague, Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi and myself said that we never wanted to discuss the matter unless it came up for discussion as a matter of right. The reply the Chief Engineer gave was that the G. O. constituting the Committee did not include this power. But our position was that as the G. O. constituting the Committee did not exclude the supplementary demand, we were entitled to discuss it. But as we did not know our actual position according to the G. O., we never discussed the matter. So the supplementary demand has come up here without either the assent or the dissent of the Committee.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: With regard to this motion I wish to make a few observations. As regards the first item of the demand, "Repairs to rain damages to tanks and channals in the Kodayar Project—Rs. 18,900." I wish to inform the department and the House that this sum is not at all sufficient if there is any real desire to restore the channels and tanks under the Kodayar Project as well as tanks in the uncommanded area. It is true that the Irrigation Committee constituted by the Government in respect of the Nagercoil Irrigation Division held three or four meetings at Nagercoil and recommended over 20 items of restoration of tanks which were absolutly necessary of which not even a single item has been taken up and completed (for want of funds) so much so I believe that this sum of Rs. 18,900 will not be sufficient to meet the requirements of the situation. But here is an attempt only to repair the rain damages to tanks, apart from the restoration of tanks, which have become silted up on account of the absence of any restoration work being taken up for the last so many years. As an instance, I may say that a big tank covering 60 or 70 acres (in Chempakaramanputhur Pakuthy) which irrigates agricultural lands has been silted up even up to the level of the bund and not more than 12,000 gallons of water at present cannot be held in it. What I say is that the supplementary grant of Rs. 18,900 is not sufficient for the purpose for which it is sought.

MR. DOMINIC JOSEPH: Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is any honourable member entitled to ask for an additional amount than what is asked for?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

PRESIDENT: No.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: With regard to the water works at Nagercoil, it may be within the memory of some of the members of this House that when it was started it was assured by Mr. Balakrishna Rao that the work will be completed in two and a half years time. He also gave very good reasons for that. But unfortunately, though it is now four years since the work is started, I am not at all satisfied with the progress that has been made with regard to the water works in Nagercoil It may not be known to most of the members of this House that there is a liability on the part of the Municipality at Nagercoil to contribute fifty per cent of the total expenditure. It is here I am more anxious than any body else, representing as I do the Municipal Council, that this work should be completed as early as possible. It is now over four years since the work was started and I can say that the work is not even 25 per cent finished. It is true that there is the high level reservoir which has been completed. It stands there as a monument for the slackness of the work of the department. Only a reservoir alone is to be seen and that from a distance of 15 or 20 miles. But no work is progressing there. The pipe line could have been completed by this time. You will find on the left side of the Balamore road huge trenches. They have been allowed to remain there for the last 7 or 8 months. It is a nuisance not only for the Government Transport buses but also for private cars to take that route. There is an absence of the earnestness on the part of the department to see that the works are expedited. I do not see any reason why there should be so much delay in the matter of putting cement pipes and cover the trenches so that the traffic may not be obstructed. That is one aspect of the whole question in which the department should be asked to give a proper explanation.

Secondly, with regard to the low level reservoir. I understand definitely that a contractor has been asked to take up the work. The contractor goes on with the work. Who pays the money? The local maistry advances the money. By the time work is finished for 300 rupees or so, measurement is taken for the work so far completed, bill is passed, the maistry takes his share of the bill. Then again work is started with the next instalment of loans advanced by the maistry. That is how the contractor is going to complete the work of the low level reservoir. Now with regard to establishment. At the time it was started, one Water-Works Executive Engineer was appointed to supervise the water works at Shencotta as well as the work at Nagercoil. The Executive Engineer has his Division office at Nagercoil. In order to supervise the work in Shencotta he went all the way from Nagercoil to Shencotta and in order to supervise the work at Nagercoil he comes down from Shencotta. So the T. A. at the end of the year is apportioned between the Water works at Shencotta and those at Nagercoil. Afterwards, the work at Shencotta was taken away from the supervision of the Executive Engineer at Nagercoil. Now the whole of the T. A. has to be shared by the Municipality. Lately, the Executive Engineer has been transferred. I may also draw the attention of the Government to this. When he was supervising the water

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

works at Nagercoil, he was given another charge also, to investigate the scheme at Perinchani. So his establishment charges were apportioned between the Perinchani scheme and the Nagercoil water works. The Perinchani Scheme was investigated by the Executive Engineer who has now been transferred. There is no Executive Engineer at present for Water Works at Nagercoil. I understand that the Government proposes to have one in Nagercoil. My submission is that there is absolutely no necessity for an Executive Engineer for water works for Nagercoil. If one is appointed it will only be an unnecessary expenditure on the part of Government and unnecessary liability on the Municipality of Nagercoil. Already four and a half years have elapsed since the work was started and it is my view that unnecessary expenditure should not be incurred in the name of appointing another Executive Engineer for Water Works Division at Nagercoil. So, what I submit is this. The scheme has been prepared and the works started and the further progress of the work can be supervised by the water works Sub-Division Officer and controlled by the Executive Engineer Southern Division. So, there is, I submit, again, absolutely no necessity for a separate Water Works Executive Engineer for Nagercoil whose appointment will be only an additional burden of expenditure not only for Government but also for the Municipality. The Supervising work can be entrusted practically with the Division Officer, P. W. D. stationed at Nagercoil.

There is another ground, Sir, for the transfer of this work to the Division Officer. At present the Nagercoil Division Officer has been deprived of authority or jurisdiction over the main southern road. Without that, the Division Officer has nothing more to do except in the matter of looking after a few irrigation works here and there. So much so, the Executive Engineer at Nagercoil has not enough work to engage his full time which otherwise would be the case. Now he has much less work. So, the Executive Engineer of the southern division may be asked to supervise the water works also. In other words, I may briefly submit that there is absolutely no necessity for a separate Executive Engineer for water works in the place of the one who has been transferred from there and the Executive Engineer for the southern division may be entrusted with the work of supervising the water-works for the simple reason that the regular Executive Engineer for the Southern Division has got less work by virtue of the G. O. depriving him of his jurisdiction over the main southern road. Secondly, in as much as 4 years have elapsed since the work was started there is no necessity for a separate high paid officer like an Executive Engineer to supervise the water works at Nagercoil. Thirdly, the supervision of the water works and the other works of the Southern Division and the investigation of the Perinchani Reservoir scheme can be entrusted to one Division Officer—of course a competent Division Officer.

PRESIDENT: Order, order.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, on a point of order.

PRESIDENT: Does the member want to say that competency is not needed ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI Sir, I want to know whether the existing Division Officer is competent or incompetent.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, it is a matter of opinion and I reserve it for myself. If the Government would accept my proposition as reasonable they would not waste their money as well as ask the Municipality to waste their money on the salary of the Executive Engineer to be appointed exclusively for this work. In other words the one Executive Engineer who is already there is quite sufficient to supervise the three types of works, *viz.*, to supervise the water-works, the regular Division works and the investigation of the Perinchani Reservoir—and I understand that the investigation of the Perinchani scheme has passed its preliminary stage and that has been handed over to the next man in charge. I also urge upon the attention of the Chief Engineer the necessity for expediting the water work as there is absolutely a lull so far as this work is concerned. I can show anybody who desires to go and satisfy himself by seeing the work on the spot that the work already done is not at all satisfactory. So it behoves on the part of the Government to see whether they could not expedite the work.

Secondly, I want to point out that the pumping plant—

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: Sir, on a point of order. Can the honourable member be allowed to go on repeating himself?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, the repetition is meant to emphasise the point so that the Chief Engineer may be well impressed with it and go into the problem seriously.

Then, with regard to the pumping plant and filteration plant for the purchase of which the Chief Engineer wants money. Sir, I am given to understand that these plants could not be had at present on account of war. If it is found difficult to get these machineries down, I would suggest that the Town Distribution scheme may be completed and arrangements may be made to pump out water from a neighbouring tank for supply in the town so that the Municipality may proceed with the preliminaries connected with water supply as early as possible. Sir, I say this because the Municipality has been asked to bear half the establishment charges, which they cannot afford.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member is entitled to speak in detail on the necessity or otherwise of the grants asked for. But he cannot bring forward arguments for augmenting the revenue of the Municipality.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, I want only to put the question plainly before the House so that the House may be able to understand how far the Municipality has been unnecessarily made liable for the expenditure which could be avoided. It is only intended at least for the sake of humane consideration of the Chief Engineer to take into consideration whether he could not exercise sufficient drive on the officers concerned in view of the slow progress of the work. With these words, and expecting that the Chief Engineer would answer my three points, I resume my place.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I want to make only a few observations with regard to this Demand. When the budget was passed a few months ago the Financial Secretary announced a surplus of more than a lakh of rupees. I wonder how this Demand can be met and how the House can vote for it unless Government are prepared to spend the money out of their capital. When there is just over a lakh of rupees as surplus it is quite un-understandable to bring forward such a supplementary Demand. The Financial Secretary was paid glowing tributes for showing a paper surplus of a lakh of rupees. Here is the Chief Engineer asking for a Supplementary grant of over 4 lakhs. My view on this may be right or wrong but it is high time for enlightened Travancore to budget their amounts more intelligently.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഈ ഗ്രാൻറിനെപ്പററി പല എതിർ വാദങ്ങളും എൻെറ മാന്യസ്നേഹിതന്മാർ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി.

ബഡ്ജററ് ശുപീകരണവിഷയത്തിൽ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി അവർകൾക്ക് ടെക്നിക്കലായി ചില തെററുകൾ പററിയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന് ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞുകേട്ടു. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേധാവികൾക്ക് പററിയിട്ടുള്ള തെറുകളെപ്പററി മി. ശിവതാണുപിള്ളയും ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. നെയ്യാററിൻകര, വിളവങ്കോട്ട് എന്നീ താലൂക്കുകളിൽ പല സ്ഥലത്തും കൃഷിച്ചെതം ധാരാളമായി ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോൾ അതിവർഷം ഉണ്ടായി എങ്കിലും കൽക്കുളം വിളവങ്കോട് താലൂക്കുകളിൽ കരിവാണ് എന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ ഞാൻ കളവുപറയുകയല്ലേ എന്നു പലരും വിചാരിച്ചേയ്ക്കാം. എന്നാൽ പരമാർത്ഥം അങ്ങനെ തന്നെ. തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂർകാർ കൃഷിപ്പിഴയെപ്പററി എപ്പോഴും മുറവിളി കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട്, പെരുഞ്ചാണി പ്രോജക്ടിനെപ്പററിയുള്ള അന്വേഷണം പൂർത്തിയാക്കി ഉടനടി ബഡ്ജററിൽ പണമനുവദിച്ചു വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. കുറെ കൂടി കുറവുള്ള ഒരാളാണു ഇന്നത്തെ ഡിവിഷൻ ആഫീസർ എങ്കിലും അദ്ദേഹം കുറേക്കൂടി ചൊടിയോടെ ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ട് ദ്രുതഗതിയിൽ അയയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: കൂടി കുറഞ്ഞയാൾ എന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു് എന്തു് ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണു്?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: അതിനെപ്പററി മെമ്പർ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചതിൽ കൂടുതലായി ഞാൻ ഒന്നും ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: എന്തുദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണു മെമ്പർ അങ്ങിനെ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഉദ്ദേശം പലതരത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കും.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: പ്രത്യേകമായ ഉദ്ദേശം ഒന്നുമില്ലയോ?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഇല്ല.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: മൂടില്ലാ എന്നു പ്രയോഗിച്ചതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം എന്താണു?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: സ്മാർട്ട് എന്നും കാൺഷിയൻഷ്യസ് എന്ന അർത്ഥം ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണ് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

അതുകൊണ്ടു് പെരുഞ്ചാണി പ്രോജക്ടിനെക്കുറിച്ചുള്ള സംഗതികളിൽ ഉടനടി വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിച്ചു് തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള കർഷകരെ രക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഈ സഭാസമക്ഷം ഒന്നുകൂടി അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഉടനടിയായ യുക്തി അനുവദിച്ചാൽ പോരാ. കൂടുതൽ പണം അതിലേക്കു് അനുവദിക്കണം. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഇറിഗേഷൻ ബോർഡു ഞണ്ടിൽ ഒരിക്കൽപോലും കൂടുന്നില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെയൊരു ബോർഡു വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അവിടെ യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവും സിദ്ധിക്കുകയില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഒന്നുകിൽ ഈ ബോർഡിനെ നിറുത്തണം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇറിഗേഷൻ പദ്ധതികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വേണ്ട ഉപദേശം നൽകത്തക്ക രീതിയിൽ കമ്മിറ്റിയെ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനു ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർ അവർകൾ ശ്രമിക്കണം. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സംഗതികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ ഉടനടി വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ അസംബ്ലിയിലെ വാദപ്രതിവാദങ്ങളും മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിനുകൂടി നേരിട്ടു കേൾക്കത്തക്കരീതിയിൽ ഇവിടെനിന്നും കൊട്ടാരംവരെ ഒരു കമ്പി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിച്ചാൽ ഞങ്ങളുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങൾക്കെല്ലാം ഉടനടി പരിഹാരം ലഭിക്കുമായിരുന്നു. തെക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ കർഷകരുടെ സങ്കടത്തിനു് ഉടനടി പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭ്യർത്ഥനയോടുകൂടി ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഒരു മനസ്ഥിതിയാണു് എനിക്കുള്ളതെങ്കിലും ഞാൻ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 4,13,767 under Demand No. XI—Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage under the head referred to in the printed paper before the House was put to vote and carried and the grant made.

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: Sir, I beg leave to move for a Grant of Rs. 20,000 for completing P. W. D. Works under progress in

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the Ceramic Factory at Kundara. Sir, in moving this demand, I make the following observations to show how this Rs. 20,000 was arrived at. The following items of work required additional grants:

		Rs.
1.	Staff quarters	6,400
2.	Flush out latrines	2,400
3.	Final bill for earth-work levelling factory site	1,500
4.	Roads within the factory	2,200
5.	Drainage works	600
6.	Balance earth-work in levelling site	850
7.	Iron bands, fire lining to the chimney etc.	600
8.	Petty supervision adjustment etc.	1,500
9.	Police Out-post	3,950
	Total	20,000

These amounts are necessary to complete the work and open the factory. I beg leave to move———

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Will the honourable member kindly explain why these items could not have been anticipated in the budget?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: These items were not definitely known at the time the budget was prepared Only lump sum grants were given and the final stage of each of these estimates has not been completely got at the time of the last budget.

MR. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN: ചിമ്മിനിയുടെ ജോലി പി. ഡബ്ല്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു ചെയ്തിക്കയാണോ ?

MR. M. S DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: It is partly by the P. W. D. and partly by the Ceramic Factory.

MR. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ചിമ്മിനിക്കു കേടുപറ്റി എന്നൊരു വാർത്ത കേട്ടതു വാസ്തവമാണോ ?

MR. M S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: There are some cracks.

MR. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: അതു സായിപ്പിന്റെ ദോഷംകൊണ്ടാണോ അതല്ല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ അറിവില്ലായ്മകൊണ്ടോ എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണ് സംഭവിച്ചതു് ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: There is absolutely no difficulty regarding the foundation or the soil in which the chimney has been built. The cracks have probably occurred on account of the want of air space between the main structure and the inside lining.

MR. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: കൺസ്ട്രക്ഷൻ സ്കീം ഉണ്ടാക്കിയതു് അബദ്ധമാണെന്നാണോ വിചാരിക്കേണ്ടതു് ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMY AIYANGAR: This was not anticipated at the time the estimate was prepared.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: 'Sir, I don't wish to stand in the way of Government's spending money for any necessary piece of work, but I think it is high time that we pointed out to the Dewan-President that the practice of bringing supplementary demands is becoming rather too much of a fashion with several of the Departmental Heads. This time, the P. W. D. itself is making a demand of about Rs. 4½ lakhs. As one of the honourable members pointed out, there must be something wrong in budget making or some thing wrong in the estimate prepared by the departmental heads or something wrong somewhere else which is not known to the departmental heads or to the Financial Secretary. The only justification for supplementary demand is and can be that the necessity for this amount could not be anticipated at the time when the budget was prepared. I remember on previous occasions the departmental heads, whenever they brought a demand for supplementary grant had at least the courtesy to explain to us how the particular item could not be anticipated at the time of the budget and how it arose subsequently. But, now it has become so much a matter of course that the demands are placed before the House even without an attempt to make an explanation why this was not included in the budget. I think this is scant courtesy shown to the House and I would request the Dewan-President to minimise this as far as possible and to allow such a practice only when it is absolutely necessary.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Financial Secretary, have you got anything to offer?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: Sir, it will be found from almost all the items of the supplementary demands that these items could not be anticipated at the time of the preparation of the budget. Even under item XI, you will find that the first three items could not have been contemplated at the time the budget was prepared, In regard to item No. IV, it was due, I admit, to a defective estimating by the department. But it is inevitable that when items of expenditure not contemplated at all at the time of the budget estimate arise for consideration, supplementary grants should be moved before the House for their sanction.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Is it a new work or an old one?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: It was thought at the time the budget was prepared that this item was not necessary. But the Chief Engineer has now brought to the notice of the Government that additional expenditure is necessary and Government are convinced that these demands are necessary.

PRESIDENT: There is no doubt that so far as item No. IV in Grant XI is concerned it is to a certain extent the combined fault of Government in the Financial Department and the Public Works Department. There is no getting away from that fact and it is explained and can be explained only on that basis. Government will naturally see that when supplementary grants are moved they are moved rather only for essential purposes and mainly when unexpected items are forthcoming. That matter will be kept in mind.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI : May I know whether these items can be considered as new budgetory services ?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI : These are not new services.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : യുദ്ധം നിമിത്തം സാമാനങ്ങളുടെ ക്ഷ ഭത്തൽ വന്നിട്ടുള്ള ആവശ്യത്തിനാണൊ ഈ ചിലവു് ?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI : No, Sir.

PRESIDENT : It is not so.

Mr. Chief Engineer, have you got anything to say ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMY AIYANGAR : Sir, I have nothing to say except to state that this additional grant for the Water Works has been rendered necessary

PRESIDENT : No, we have gone past that.

MR. M. S. DORASWAMY AIYANGAR : Well, I have nothing to add.

PRESIDENT : The remarks fallen from the honourable member should be borne in mind in moving for supplementary grants.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 20,000 under Demand No. XV Industries including Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DR. S KAMESAM : Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs 46,705 under Demand XX—Forests (including Director of Development).

Before I discuss the necessity for the various allotments that I have asked for, I might explain why these items have been asked for as supplementary demands. The first of these is the construction of a building for housing the proposed Sports Factory at a cost of Rs. 3,500. This question came up for consideration only recently. There was considerable correspondence going on between this Department and several Sports Goods Manufacturing concerns who were prepared to open a factory in the State. It was only very recently that we were able to come to an understanding with a well known company in Sialkot for their putting up a factory in Travancore. This item was solely unanticipated during the time of the budget estimate.

As regards the second item, *viz.*, purchase of machinery for the Development Department at a cost of Rs. 11,205, we had placed orders for these machinery even during the last financial year, but we did not get any reply as regards the delivery date from the firm to which we have written. We were not sure whether we will be able to get the orders fulfilled. So that the money lapsed, hence, the occasion for asking this demand arose in a supplementary grant.

The third item relates to additional funds for the Development Department for the purchase of Ascu chemical etc., at a cost of Rs. 4000. We had budgetted for a certain amount of Ascu chemicals, but the Electrical and Telephone Departments asked for about ten or eleven thousand poles after the last financial year and for this we had to obtain chemicals. We have already ordered for Rs. 8000 worth of chemicals from a German firm which promised to give it before the end of the financial year. But they did not deliver and so the money lapsed and that is the occasion for this being asked in a supplementary grant.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Dr. S. Kamesam.]

In regard to the fourth item Government had to consult the P. W. D. and other departments regarding the location of the various bridges on the rural high ways. No information was available at the time of the last financial year as to how many bridges would be required to be put during the next year and it is for that reason that I have been obliged to ask this amount in the form of a supplementary grant.

Coming to the first item, ever since I came here,—that is about two years ago—one of the first things that struck me was the possibility of the development of the sporting goods industry, that is, the manufacture of tennis rackets, badminton rackets etc. At present, in the whole of India, there is only one place, Sialkot in the Punjab, where sports goods are manufactured. Soon after I came here I started preliminary experiments to investigate the suitability of Travancore timber for the manufacture of tennis and badminton rackets. Those experiments showed the promise that some of our timber would be very useful. I sent some of the samples of such timber to two or three leading Sialkot firms; and they were able to manufacture excellent sports goods out of our samples.

As a result of such preliminary endeavours, I started correspondence with such of those firms in Sialkot as had already gained reputation for the high quality and finish of their products with a view to see if the manufacture of sports goods could not be introduced as a cottage industry in Travancore. The necessary background for that has to be created so that our workmen could be attracted to the industry. I requested some of these firms at Sialkot to let me know their terms to establish their own factory in Travancore for the manufacture of sports goods out of Travancore timber, with Travancore men as far as possible. The most reasonable terms were those offered by the Northland Sports Works which is well known in this line not only in India but also in Europe and America. Those terms of theirs were carefully scrutinised by Government. Under these terms we propose to give them a shed for their use for five years; they have to bring their own machinery and skilled workmen; they have also to train Travancoreans in the industry. And they have agreed to sell the products of the factory at a price not exceeding 95 per cent. of the current prices in the local market. They allow Government 10 per cent. of their net profits. Of course, Government also have agreed to grant them certain concessions; we will supply them timber and power at concession rates. They wanted protection in the shape of an import duty on sports goods to be imported into Travancore; and they cited the instance of the Kashmir Government, where the Government have put up a factory at a cost of Rs 40,000 and levied an import duty of 40 per cent. All that we propose to do is to allow them free use, for five years, of a shed which is estimated to cost Rs. 3,500.

I feel, Sir, that if this opportunity is lost, it would be very difficult for us to be able to pursuade any other firms of reputation to start a factory here.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. JANARDANA PILLAI : May I ask whether the firm is not to be indemnified against losses during the first few years?

DR. S. KAMESAM : As I have already stated, the firm asked for some kind of protection in the shape of an import duty ; that, we declined. However, in lieu of that, we have promised to indemnify them against their losses, up to Rs. 3,000 in the first year, Rs. 2,000 in the second year and Rs. 1,000 in the third year ; that is all. Unless we assure them some sort of protection, where is the incentive, I ask for a firm up in Sialkot, to come down to Travancore with their own machinery and men, and to train our men in the industry? It will be to the credit of Travancore if a factory is started here. The Travancore artisan, I find, is so capable that he will very easily pick up the industry, so that when, after five years, the Sialkot factory automatically disappears from here, we shall be having a very potential cottage industry of considerable importance and great usefulness.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI (*Minachil* cum *Todupuzha*) : Will they be paying us any rent for the shed?

DR. S. KAMESAM : No ; but the shed will not be their property ; they will be entitled to the free use of the shed for five years.

As regards item No. (ii), namely, purchase of machinery, the three machines that we want are the glue-spreading machine, the rotary veneering machine and the sanding machine. Sir, a great deal has been talked about here, and several proposals have been made to Government, regarding the establishment of a plywood factory in Travancore. Most of our timber suitable for the manufacture of cheaper kinds of plywood, is already fetching us such a good price that it would not be paying if we manufacture cheaper quality plywood out of them. Then, there are other timber about the peeling, and other technical characteristics of which we do not yet know anything ; it is necessary to carry on systematic, scientific preliminary investigations into their technical properties It is for that purpose that the three machines are needed. After experiments and investigation with the help of these machines, it is hoped that we shall be able to switch on to the commercial utilisation of some of our good timber for which, so far, we have had no use ; it is hoped that superior quality of plywood can be manufactured out of such timber.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Will the honourable member be pleased to give us details about what he calls 'rural bridges'? Are they to be supplied free of cost?

DR. S. KAMESAM : I shall come to that : that is item No. (iv), I have just finished item No. (ii).

Item No. (iii) relates to Ascu chemicals. As I have already stated in my preliminary remarks, about Rs. 9,000 worth of these chemicals were ordered last year the order was placed with a German firm, and we expected the chemicals to arrive before the expiry of the last financial year ; but we were disappointed, and the budgetted amount lapsed. Hence the present demand.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Is the member aware that, since the Dewan-President's announcement in this House that Dr. Kamesam was able to secure Rs. 1 lakh for his ascu, pamphlets in the form of circulars have come out, both in British India and here, to the effect that ascu treatment is all a hoax and bluff without absolutely any scientific basis or value?

PRESIDENT: This kind of discussion may be started after Dr. Kamesam has moved the motion and finished his remarks. It is the intention of the Chair to allow fairly full discussion on all such matters. It is true that there is considerable amount of misconception and misunderstanding about the work of this Development Department and its programme, so that I have come to the conclusion that it is well that such misconception should be cleared at the earliest possible opportunity; and I am sure that Dr. Kamesam himself will realise the importance and the expediency of clearing all doubts and misconceptions, and of satisfying all the honourable members of this House in regard to the work of the Development Department. Therefore, any questions that may be considered necessary may be put at the end of his remarks.

DR. S KAMESAM: As regards item No. (iv), namely the construction of rural bridges, one of them has already been finished and is in use the bridge at Samburvadakara. It is a bridge of two spans of 50 feet each and two approach spans of 20 feet each, making a total length of 140 feet. Two other bridges have also been completed, one at Chanthanthura, about 8 or 9 miles from here, and the other near Anchal. The cost of these 3 bridges is about Rs. 9,000; and I am also asking for another sum of Rs. 9,000 for building about a dozen foot and cart bridges, on rural highways, for which the necessary hardware has already been purchased during the last financial year.

I may just mention, for the information of the honourable members, that the people of Samburvadakara have been asking for a bridge there for the last 30 or 40 years. According to conventional construction, it was reckoned to cost about Rs. 40 or 50 thousand; now it has been finished with just Rs. 3,000.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I request the honourable member to answer my question about the pamphlet or circular against ascu?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Has there been any circular on that matter?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Hand bills have been issued in the form of a circular.

PRESIDENT: I think Dr. Kamesam may wait and note down all questions put to him by the honourable members, and then deal with them.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know for how many bridges the sum of Rs. 18,000 is being asked for?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

DR. S. KAMESAM : I have already mentioned the names of three bridges which have been finished ; there are a dozen more to be completed.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Is there any proposal to put up one of these bridges at Kollakadavu in the Mavelikara-Chengannur road ?

DR. S. KAMESAM : The proposal is under consideration and examination.

[*At this stage the President vacated the Chair which was then occupied by the Deputy President.*]

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: സർ, ഉഴംനാട്ടിലെ കർഷകരുടെ ഗതാഗതാവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ഉടനടി പരിഹാരം കിട്ടത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ മരപ്പാലം പണിയിക്കുന്നതിനു സൗകര്യമായ വിധത്തിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള സപ്ലിമെൻറി ഗ്രാൻറിനെ ഞാൻ ഹൃദയപൂർവം പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. ഈ കാലസ്ഥിതിക്കു് ഇരുമ്പു് സിമൻറു് മുതലായ സാമാനങ്ങൾ കൊണ്ടു ഒരു പാലമോ മറ്റു് മരാമത്തു പണികളോ ചെയ്യിക്കുക എന്നുള്ളതു് വളരെ വിഷമമായ ഒന്നാകുന്നു. നെയ്യാറിൻകര താലൂക്കിൽ കൊല്ലൻകോട്ടു് എന്ന സ്ഥലത്തു ഒരു പാലം മുറിഞ്ഞുപോകയും അപായങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകുകയും ചെയ്തു. ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയരും സബ്ഡിവിഷൻ ആഫീസരും കാറിൽചെന്നു് അതുകണ്ടിട്ടു പോയതല്ലാതെ യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവുമുണ്ടായില്ല. ഏറ്റവും വയസ്സായ സ്ത്രീകൾ—കത്തോലിക്കസമുദായത്തിലെ പെൺകുട്ടികൾ—കടത്തിൽ വെള്ളംകോരി ഒരു കൈകൊണ്ടു പിടിച്ചു് മറെറ കൈകൊണ്ടു മുണ്ടും പൊക്കിപ്പിടിച്ചു് അരയോളമോ കഴുത്തോളമോ ഉള്ള വെള്ളത്തിൽ കൂടെ കടന്നു പോകുന്നതിൻെറ ഒരു ചിത്രം വിവരിക്കാൻ പ്രയാസമില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഉടനടി പാലം കെട്ടാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യണം. മരപ്പാലം വളരെ മുൻപു തന്നെ നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൽ ധാരാളമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. വേലുത്തമ്പിദളവായുടെ കാലത്തു പണിചെയ്ത പാലങ്ങളുടെ അവശിഷ്ടങ്ങൾ ഇന്നു കാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെതന്നെ ഓല ആധാരപ്പെട്ടികൾ ഇന്നും ധാരാളമുണ്ടു്. പഴയ സംഗതികളെ പരിഷ്കാര ആശയത്തിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്ന ഡവലപ്പുമെൽറു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലേക്കു ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്ന ഈ തുക അനുവദിക്കണമെന്നാണു് എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: മറിഞ്ഞുവീണ എന്ന മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞ പാലം എന്തുകൊണ്ടു പണിചെയ്തതാണു്?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : മരംകൊണ്ടുണ്ടാക്കിയതാണു്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, I want to make a few observations in respect of this motion. I may make my position quite clear at the very outset. I am rather diffident about the affairs of Dr. Kamesam. He has been asking Government to incur expenditure year after year to the tune of lakhs and not thousands or tens of thousands. It is true Sir, that the Andhra University for the first time has conferred an honorary degree on Dr. Kamesam. It is true that his services might be had by the Government of India under a covenant. It is perhaps true that the Government of Travancore secured his services on a covenant. As was remarked by Dr. Kamesam on the floor of the House on a former occasion it may also be true that he has not come here as a job-hunter. Perhaps his security of office in the Government of India may have enabled him to say that.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I draw the attention of the member to what he said on the occasion of the opening of the Thottapalli bridge?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I said that the bridge was a wonderful bridge. At the same time I said clearly that I would wish to live to see the durability of the bridge. I was rather astonished to see that the bridge, a wooden bridge was able to hold a dead weight of 17 tons right in the middle without deflection. I said I would very much wish to see the durability of the bridge as it was remarked that it would be alright for 25 years.

The same feeling of diffidence still arises in my mind when I see Dr. Kamesam coming here, during every session of the Assembly with a demand for a lakh of rupees or Rs. 50,000. I have come to know that this ascu-treatment which has been dangled before the Travancoreans here is not a treatment on which scientific opinion has given its certificate or imprimatur of entire satisfaction. In other words, it has been reported that competent men in British India have been responsible for condemning this sort of treatment. Though it may not exactly be condemnation, according to me it must be in common parlance condemnation. They say that the treatment by ascu is not so beneficial as a wood-preservative, that the penetration is only $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

And I know definitely that there is, in circulation a pamphlet condemning ascu treatment. The name of the author of the pamphlet I cannot give at present. I should think that the honourable member himself is aware of it. If he is aware, certainly I expect him to give an answer.

Sir, I would like to know whether ascu treated wood will last far such time as Dr. Kamesam expects it will. Of course, Dr. Kamesam has been saying that there are 35 plants for ascu treatment in British India and one in England and one in America. That is no reason why we should have another here. We may as well await the result of those experiments in those places, where it is successful or not. I am only concerned with this method by ascu as a wood preservative. The Institute of Forest Research has, of course after Dr. Kamesam left the place published a memorandum containing, though not open condemnation but insinuation against his method. What has Dr. Kamesam got to say? Men, competent, qualified and well versed in this branch

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

may have given expression to their views in support of his method. But why the Institute publication is now presented with a colourful comment. I want to know what is the idea behind it. It is up to Dr. Kamesam to explain why it is so. If we are convinced that the views in the memorandum are wrong, then it is the duty of this House to decry, to condemn it altogether as being unworthy of the institution from which the publication is circulated. That is what I want to stress on the attention of the House.

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: May I know who is the author of this pamphlet or whether the honourable member is in a position to produce it for the consideration of the House ?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, I express my inability to produce it now but if I am given time I shall get it in a day or two.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: Is the honourable member in order in having referred to a pamphlet which is not before this House?

MR. M SIVATHANU PILLAI: I am only drawing the attention of the House to the circulation of such a memorandum and wanted to know whether Dr. Kamesam is aware of it or not.

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: The honourable member has been referring to the contents of hat memorandum. Is the honourable member in order when he is not sure even of the author of the memorandum ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: So far as I can see, the honourable member was not building any argument that there was such a document being circulated. He wants the honourable member, Dr. Kamesam, to answer the allegations made in that memorandum.

MR M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: That is exactly the position.

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: Is the honourable member certain that it is not as a result of any malicious propaganda started by our neighbours for the purpose of condemning an industry which holds out a good prospect in the future ?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I only wish it were so, as ardently as the Legal Remembrancer.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Does the honourable member vouch for the truth of the statement made in that document ?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I hold myself fully responsible to the statement that I made here that there is a memorandum in circulation

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is not what I asked. Does the honorable member vouch for the truth of the statement made in the memorandum?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: What I gather from a reading of the memorandum is that it does not give the treatment by ascu chemicals that place which Dr. Kamesam wants. It leaves the impression in the mind of an ordinary reader like myself that ascu treatment is after all not so reliable as is sought to be made out by Dr. Kamesam. It is stated that the penetration is only one and a half inches. I certainly will have a duty to warn the Government to think twenty or

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.]

even two hundred times before they allow Dr. Kamesam to develop the Department in the way he has been doing. Let him accept the challenge and make it plain to us, so that what he says with regard to the 35 ascu plants in British India may carry conviction and so that we may be in a position to allow him what he wants.

He wants to purchase a machinery for Rs. 11,205. It is, after all, as he said, for the purpose of experimenting. Before we allow Dr. Kamesam to go on spending money on purchase of machinery for the purpose of experimenting (on the basis of ascu-treatment) we must at least be sure that the experiment will be of some use to Travancore. So, before we rely on his suggestion or his pet method of treatment for wood preservative we must at least be a little bit convinced, at this time when we know that an authoritative memorandum is issued in the name of the Institute of Forestry questioning the claims of his ascu treatment. We should, of course, expect a clarification of the whole position before we allow him to purchase all this machinery.

DR. S. KAMESAM: I am afraid the honourable member is mixing up two things. The machinery has nothing to do with ascu process.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: The two issues slowly merge in Dr. Kamesam, because he is practically the inventor of the ascu treatment and he is the person who now stands before the House and demands for a grant of Rs. 11,205 for the purchase of machinery. So, the two issues, though separate by themselves, merge into one another. It now behoves Dr. Kamesam to convince the House that his treatment is best or better than other methods as cresole treatment or the German method and if it turns out in this debate that he is right, then the authors of the memorandum will have to withdraw it unconditionally and confess their own inability to impeach the ascu treatment I want the issue to be cleared.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN: On a point of order, Sir. The honourable member tells that he is not basing his arguments on the memorandum but he is constantly harping on it. He is not able to tell us who the author is or its source.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, it is necessary only when Dr. Kamesam does not accept it. He freely accepts that such a memorandum is in circulation. That is quite sufficient for my purpose. I am not able to give details of what the memorandum contains. But all the same, Dr. Kamesam is aware of it and that makes it easy for me. If he says that he is not aware of the memorandum, then I can understand the necessity for a point of order being raised by the Vice-chancellor who appears to be rather nervous about Dr. Kamesam's defence.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The existence of the memorandum is not the question at issue. And you cannot build an argument on the contents of it unless you fix its authorship.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Yes, Sir. I do not propose to go into the language of the memorandum. But I only point out the existence of such a thing and that in the name of the Forest Institute in which Dr. Kamesam has been serving.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The house has well understood your position

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: As for that matter may I point out to the House that the existence of such a memorandum was first referred to by Dr. Kamesam himself and not by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI Yes, Sir. I do not want the credit for being first in the filed.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member referring to the same memorandum which Dr. Kamesam has made mention of?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Certainly Yes, Sir.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: In that case, that does not condemn Dr. Kamesam.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I am sorry that the honourable member has not understood me nor the memorandum. From all these I have to infer that the memorandum is known fairly well to all the members of the House But all the same, I have to say that it deffers very violently from the professions or the claims of Dr. Kamesam and certainly insinuates against the efficacy of his ascu treatment.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That is a different thing from condemnation about him.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: In my opinion it is worse than condemnation as the attack is not frontal. Anyway, I put it that that memorandum differs very violently from the professions of Dr. Kamesam My position is that I am very glad that the Legal Remembrancer has suggested to me in an interpellation that the circulation of that memorandum has a motive behind it. I may say at the same time that nobody would be more glad than I when Dr. Kamesam will successfully dispel from the minds of the representatives, the impression left behind on account of the circulation of the memorandum I am sure Dr. Kamesam is sturdy enough to defend himself whether the Legal Rememberancer has or has not any belief in his behalf.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഡിമാന്റിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഡവലപ്പ്മെന്റ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റെ ആരംഭം മുതൽക്കുതന്നെ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽനിന്നും കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനകളെല്ലാം ഈ സഭ അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുത്തു പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കയാണ്. ഇനിയും അങ്ങനെതന്നെ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ഇവിടത്തെ പല മെമ്പർമാരും മനസ്സുള്ളവരാണു. ഞങ്ങൾ മി: കാമേശത്തിന്റെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിൽനിന്നും പലതും ആശിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. ടി. സി. കേശവപിള്ള പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഗതാഗതത്തി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. P. S. Muhammed.]

നാവശ്യമുള്ള പാലങ്ങളും മറ്റുവിധത്തിലുള്ള കെട്ടിടങ്ങളും മറ്റും ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനു വലിയ ചെലവുകൂടാതെ സാധിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് ഞങ്ങൾ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ ഇതുവരെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നതു്. എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. ശിവതാണുപിള്ള പറഞ്ഞതു് ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളെ അപലപിച്ചു് ഒരു പാംഫ്ലറ്റോ മെമ്മോറാണ്ടമോ മറ്റോ പ്രചരിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നാണ്. അതു മി. ശിവതാണുപിള്ളയും മി. കാമേശ്വരും മാത്രമല്ല ഞാനും എന്റെ ചില സ്നേഹിതന്മാരും കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതിൽ പറയുന്ന സംഗതികൾ ശരിയാണോ? ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്തതിനുശേഷം ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനം പരാജയത്തിലാണു് കലാശിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ ഇതിലേക്കു പണം അനുവദിക്കുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ ഒരു വലിയ തെറ്റു ഈ സഭ ചെയ്യുകയില്ല. ആ മെമ്മോറാണ്ടത്തിൽ പറയുന്നതു ശരിയോ തെറ്റോ എന്നു ഈ സഭയെ പറഞ്ഞു മനസ്സിലാക്കേണ്ട ചുമതല മി. കാമേശ്വരത്തിനുണ്ടു്. അതിനു അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു കഴിഞ്ഞില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഞങ്ങളുടെ ചുമതല ഈ അഭ്യർത്ഥനയെ നിരസിക്കയെന്നുള്ളതാണു്. മി. കാമേശ്വരത്തിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളെല്ലാം സാധുപ്രായങ്ങളാണെന്നു ഞങ്ങളെ വിശ്വസിപ്പിച്ചാൽ ഞങ്ങൾ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനേയും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനേയും പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കുകതന്നെ ചെയ്യും.

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI: Sir, I wish to speak a few words on the motion before the House. With regard to the construction of a building for housing the proposed sports factory, I, for one, am prepared to welcome that idea for Trivandrum. In the course of Dr. Kamesam's observation I had been able to elicit one point, namely that the particular firm, the Northland Sports Factory at Sailkot who have offered to work the factory in Travancore have asked for a contribution of Rs. 3,000 during the first year, Rs. 2,000 in the second year and Rs. 1000 in the third year, as a guarantee against any loss happening to them in that undertaking. I know the Government have been offered 5 per cent. of the net profits. I was wondering whether that is a wise proposition to be entered into by Government in the interests of the country. I have not been able to find out whether any competitive offer had been invited, in the interests of the industry concerned. I am not quite sure whether the terms proposed by the Northlands are the best that could be had in our interests. I may say that I have had transactions myself with the Firm and I know several other manufacturers. It is quite possible that we might get better terms than the one now offered by the Northlands Sports, provided we make confidential efforts to invite competitive tenders. I admit

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

that Dr. Kamesam had been trying to get offers from other people. But that is not an exclusive argument against my position. I do not see any reason why, in the face of the concessions which the Travancore Government are willing to give such manufacturing firms, namely a building free of rent, timber and other materials, on a graduated tariff price system, payment of loss during three years and so forth, other better offers could not be had. I am at a loss to see why the Government should indemnify the firm against losses even at the very commencement of the industry. Why should we take the risk of guaranteeing about Rs. 6000 for starting the industry even to begin with? That is a position which I cannot understand. We ought to have invited tenders and then fixed the contract on the best offer. If that had been done, I would not have had any objection at all. I quite agree that Government ought to agree to the construction of a building for starting the industry. I go a step further and say, that when we fix up an agreement we should take particular care to see that the question of losses should be taken up, and considered only ofter 5 or 6 years, because if there is loss in the first two or three years there would be profit after that period. The approach to solve the problem has not been altogether sound.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know whether it is the member's position that a sufficient number of other open tenders has not been invited before settling the agreement with this particular firm?

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI: Yes.

As for the third item, namely, additional funds for the Development Department for the purchase of Ascu chemicals, I am not prepared either nor am I going to speak anyting of a pamphlet which is out to condemn it or to speak well of it. But this much I am entitled to say, namely, Ascu chemicals are manufactured according to the patent of Dr. Kamesam himself. Dr. Kamesam himself is also the head of the Department here and these are the two factors for consideration. Since Ascu chemicals according to the patent of Dr. Kamesam are imported here for several thousands of Rupees we have a right to know whether we are getting the proper value for our money. We must satisfy ourselves on that point. There is criticism that timber treated with Ascu treatment might not have a long life. It may as well happen that Dr. Kamesam himself might not be in Travancore service after some years. It may also be that most of the members now in this House may not be alive some years hence. So then, when we sanction funds, we must satisfy ourselves whether the material got down is really intended to serve its purpose and whether it is the genuine material. If Dr. Kamesam can assure us that it is in the best interests of the country that we effect such purchases and that it would serve the purpose very well, that is all the point we want. We want to know that assurance is forthcoming from Dr. Kamesam, then it would be possible to decide whether the demand in question could be sanctioned or not. If his explanation is satisfactory I say that the demand has to be necessarily sanctioned.

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MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : സർ, ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റ്മെൻറിനു കെമിക്കൽസ് വാങ്ങിക്കാനാണ് ഈ പണം ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതു. ഒരു ക്യൂബിക്കടി തടി ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു തടിയുടെ വില കെമിക്കൽസിന്റെ ചെലവു് മി: കാമേശത്തിന്റെ കമ്മിഷൻ, ഇതെല്ലാംകൂടി എത്ര ചെലവുവരുമെന്നു ഈ സഭ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയിട്ടില്ല. ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റു ചെയ്താൽ തടി നൂറുകൊല്ലം നിൽക്കും എന്നാണു് പറയുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ അതു് നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൽ ധാരാളമുള്ള തേക്കു, തമ്പകം മുതലായ തടികളെക്കാൾ നല്ലതാണോ ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റുചെയ്ത തടി എന്നു നോക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. അദ്ദേഹം പറയുന്നതു് ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റുചെയ്ത തടികൾ ഒന്നര ഇഞ്ചോ രണ്ടിഞ്ചോ വെടിക്കുകയെയുള്ളു എന്നാണു്. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള തടികൊണ്ടു പാലം പണിതാൽ ഒരു ഫ്ലഡ് കൊല്ലം കഴിയുമ്പോൾ അതു് ഉരുണ്ടു വീഴും. അതിൽഭേദം തമ്പകമോ തേക്കോകൊണ്ടു പാലം പണിയുകയാണു നല്ലതു്. ഈ തടികൾ ഡിപ്പോവിൽ ഫ്രീ ഗ്രൂപ വച്ചു് ലേലത്തിൽ പോകുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ വിലയാകുമെങ്കിൽ ഈ കെമിക്കൽസ് എല്ലാം വരുത്തി മറ്റു തടികളെ ടീറ്റു ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. എൻജിനീയർ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ ചില അധികാരമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരോടു ചോദിച്ചതിൽ കാമേശത്തിനു കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഗ്രൂപ കൊടുത്താൽ അവർക്കു തടികൊണ്ടു പാലം പണിയാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നാണു്. തമ്പകംകൊണ്ടു പാലം പണിയുന്നതിനേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ ചെലവല്ലേ ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റുചെയ്ത തടികൾ കൊണ്ടാക്കാൻ എന്നാണു് എന്റെ സംശയം. മാവുകൊണ്ടും മരുതുകൊണ്ടും പാലം കെട്ടി എന്നു വരുത്തിയതുകൊണ്ടു യാതൊരു വിശേഷവുമില്ല. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ സാമ്പത്തികമായ ഒരഭിവൃദ്ധിയുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിലേക്കാണു് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതു്. തമ്പകവും തേക്കും കൂടുതൽ പഴക്കം നിൽക്കുന്നതാണു്. അതു വിലകുറച്ചു കിട്ടത്തക്കവണ്ണമുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ വേണം ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ. ഉപ്പുവെള്ളമുള്ള പ്രദേശത്തു മരുതുകൊണ്ടു പാലം പണിതാൽ വളരെക്കാലം നിൽക്കും. വള്ളങ്ങൾ കുളമാവുകൊണ്ടാണുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു്. അതു പത്തും അൻപതും കൊല്ലംവരെ നിൽക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് അദ്ദേഹം ആസ്ക്യൂ ടീറ്റ്ചെയ്ത തടികൾ ചെലവു കുറവുള്ളതും വളരെക്കാലം നിൽക്കുന്നതാണെന്നും ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ കെമിക്കൽസ് വാങ്ങിക്കാനുള്ള ചെലവു അനുവദിക്കാം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അദ്ദേഹം പണിതിട്ടുള്ള പാലങ്ങളുടെ സ്ഥിതി എങ്ങിനെയിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്നു് ഒരു മൂന്നു കൊല്ലം നോക്കിയിട്ടു പിന്നീടു നിശ്ചയിക്കാം.

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MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : ഇരുമ്പും സിമൻറുംകൊണ്ട് പാലമുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിന് കൂടുതൽ ചെലവു വരുമെന്നാണ് പറയുന്നത്. തോട്ടപ്പള്ളി പാലത്തിനു എന്തു ചെലവുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമൊ?

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ആലുവാ പാലം തോട്ടപ്പള്ളിപാലത്തിൽ നിന്നും വലിയ വ്യത്യാസംകൂടാതെ പണിചെയ്യാം. അതിനെക്കുറിച്ച് അസംബ്ളിയിലേക്ക് ഒരു ചോദ്യം അയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിന്റെ മറുപടി കിട്ടിയിട്ടുവേണം അതിനെക്കുറിച്ച് കൂടുതൽ വിവരങ്ങൾ അറിയേണ്ടതു്. മരംകൊണ്ടുള്ള പാലത്തിന്റെ പഴക്കം ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടതായില്ലാതെ അതിലേക്ക് കൂടുതൽ പണം ചിലവുചെയ്യാൻ പാടില്ല. ഇരുമ്പും സിമൻറും ഇവിടെ വന്നതോടുകൂടിയാണ് മരപ്പാലങ്ങളെല്ലാം പൊളിച്ച് പുതുതായി പണി തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഇവിടെ ചാക്കയിൽകടവിലുള്ള പാലത്തിന് ഇതുവരെ യാതൊരുകേടും വന്നിട്ടില്ല. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു അദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധക്കുറവുകൊണ്ട് പല പാലങ്ങൾക്കും അറുകുറാ വന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. വേണ്ട മുതലാബോധത്തോടുകൂടി പാലം പണി നടത്തിയാൽ വലിയ തരക്കേടൊന്നും വരികയില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരുമ്പും സിമൻറുംകൊണ്ടുള്ള പാലത്തിന്റെ പഴക്കം എത്രയാണെന്ന് നിണ്ണയിക്കാറായിട്ടില്ല. അതിന്റെ പഴക്കം അറിഞ്ഞാലെ അതിന്റെ ആയുസ്സു നിശ്ചയിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളു. തേക്ക്, തമ്പകം മുതലായ തടികളെ അൺക്യൂടിറുമെൻറ് ചെയ്തു ഇവിടെ പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചിരുന്നു. അതു് വെള്ളാനയെക്കൊണ്ടു് കളിപ്പിക്കുന്നതുപോലാണ്. വളരെ ഭംഗിയായി ഡവലപ്പുമെൻറ് സെക്ഷൻ എന്നൊന്ന് ഉണ്ടാക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിൽനിന്നും നടത്തുന്ന ജോലി പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുകാണുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികനില ഉയരണമെങ്കിൽ കൂടുതൽ പഴക്കമുള്ള പാലങ്ങളാണ് അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്ന് ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകളും കണക്കുകൊണ്ടു ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടുത്തണം. ഇതുവരെ ചെയ്ത ജോലികൊണ്ടു് അതു് ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടില്ല.

DR. S. KAMESAM Sir, I am indeed glad to have this opportunity of clearing some of the doubts and misgivings in the minds of some of the honourable members of the House.

In the first place, I would take up the criticism made by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai. He viewes with a certain amount of alarm at the one lakh and odd of rupees sanctioned for the execution of my schemes and experiments. What are the actual facts? Last year a sum of Rs. 1,40,000 was granted to my department, of which about Rs. 30,000 lapsed and this year, Rs. 70,000 was given to me. Out of that the cost of machinery that has been brought for experimental purposes amounted to Rs. 50.000 and buildings for Rs. 30,000. The cost for

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Dr. S. Kamesam]

treating poles for electrical department was also met out of this amount. Instead of the Forest Department getting half the tariff value, the Development Department has been able to get the full price. Income under that head amounted to Rs. 30 to 40 thousand. The Madras Government purchased from us 800 poles at three to four times the price the Electaical Department was paying for.

Then as for the faith that can be put upon the Ascu treatment I can do no better than read a paragraph from a pamphlet published by the Government of India a few years ago. It says :—

> "It is scarcely necessary to emphasise that the invention of Ascu has now made it possible for indigenous timbers to compete with steel, iron and concrete for structural purposes, so that a new industry of considerable importance is coming into being. This will not only increase the revenues of the Forest Department from sources which gave a poor income before, but will lead to the employment, directly and indirectly, of thousands of educated men, artisans and manual workers, and will reduce imports of foreign materials".

This bullettin is prepared and issued by the Government of India for the information of the Central Legislative Assembly members and the members of the Provincial Legislative Council. So you cannot expect a more authoritative bullettin than this.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the author of the bullettin?

DR. S. KAMESAM: It is published by the order of the Government of India. Then there is a letter by Sir Gerald Trevor Kt., Inspector General of Forests, India, and President, Forest Research Institute & College, Dehra-Dun. What does he say about Ascu treatment? The Times of India wrote an article condemning the Ascu treatment. Everybody knew what was the intention behind it. Sir Gerald Trevor contradicted some of the contents of the article and demanded to publish his article in the paper. The paper declined to do so. He has put it in the form of a letter to "Commerce". Sir Gerald Trevor, the former Inspector General of Forests, India has written like this :—

> "At the same time, it is possible by means of what are known as accelerated tests to obtain an indication, within a comparatively short time, as to whether a wood preservative is likely to be any good or not. Ascu was subjected to many such accelerated tests, in fact to more tests than any other preservative yet tested at the Forest Research institute. It was tested separately, and also together with creosote and other well-known commercial wood preservatives, and in these accelerated tests it did extremely well. For example, in one trial all the pressure creosoted test pieces were destroyed in about 18 months while similar Ascu treated pieces were intact after 3½ years.
>
> While these tests were going on, the question of a cheap and simple type of pressure plant was being investigated, and eventually a very effective portable plant of simple design and

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

small cost was designed. This plant was tested out in a practical way and proved efficient. At last therefore the prospect of cheap commercial wood preservation in India appeared to be in sight."

Again he goes on :—

"Put briefly, does a small commercial man prefer to install a creosoting plant at a cost of Rs. 10,000 or more and to purchase creosote at one rupee or so per gallon, or does he prefer to invest Rs. 500 only on a pressure plant for Ascu treatment (the largest plant designed costs only Rs. 2,500) and to buy Ascu at, say, 6 to 10 annas a gallon and risk it being an efficient and durable preservative? The answer is in favour of Ascu every time.....

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know who is the author of the article?

DR. S. KAMESAM; This is an article by a former Inspector General of Forests, India and published by the "Commerce"—a well-known business journal.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI May I know the respective costs of Ascu inventions?

DR. S. KAMESAM: That is a very interesting question to answer. But before doing so I may make one other point clear. It is said I am pushing the use of Ascu for making profit. There is nothing further than the truth The Travancore Government have fixed a certain amount. I do not get any more money than what was fixed four or five years ago. The Mysore Government have the longest experience of 15 years with regard to Ascu treated timber. They have treated on an average two lakhs of railway sleepers after giving up creosote. They have started using Ascu some five years ago and have found it to be entirely successful. After trial Mysore Government bought the right for Ascu from me just like the Travancore Government for fixed sum of money. Then again there is the following sentence from a publication of the Government of United Provinces on the preservation of wood with Ascu and the scope for the use of Sapwood :—

"The Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, feels, therefore, justified in recommending Ascu to all Provincial Governments and non-official inquiries and has stated that Ascu appears to be, so far, the most efficient and economical wood preservative known."

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the name of the author? Is he an Indian or an Englishman?

DR. S. KAMESAM: He is an Indian: Referring to the memorandum that has been circulated, Mr. Sivathanu Pillai stated that Ascu was condemned by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun. I may say, Sir, that this is an incorrect statement. There are a number of booklets published by the Forest Research Institute about Ascu treatment and the success it has gained. If the Government of India or the Forest Research Insititute decide now to go back upon what they said—but that is hypothetical—they will have to withdraw at least 22 publications.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Dr. S. Kamesam.]

There is no responsible authority in any part of British India or the United States that has condemned Ascu. I do not know where from the honourable members has got the information that Ascu treatment has been condemned. It is entirely incorrect.

The memorandum to which apparently the honourable member refers is a memorandum recently issued by the Forest Research Institute. It is true that that the Institute has never given a guarantee at any time in the past for the life of the ascu treated timber. All that it did was to compare this treatment with 70 other types of treatment tested at the Institute. It also said Ascu gave the best results. I challenge anyone either inside this House or outside this House to state that the Forest Research Institute has said something other than this or that it has pointed out any other type as better than Ascu. In fact, it has condemned creosote as not quite reliable in an official publication. In spite of this, cresote has been recommended without any qualification. As regards Ascu, the Institute has not pointed out a single case in which timber properly treated with Ascu has failed.

Coming now to the memorandum referred to by my honourable friend Mr. Sivathanu Pillai I may say that it is about 7 years since. Ascu was invented and 5½ years after its invention the first The Forest Research Institute published a Forest Record based on tests conducted up to then declaring that it was the best wood preservative known. But a Research Institute cannot commit itself regarding the ultimate performance of any preservative and cannot give any guarantee. All that I can say is from experiments and authoritative opinions from experts that it is the most suitable preservative. This is what the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun says in one of their Forest Records dealing with Ascu:—

"Over 60 different wood preservatives, including creosote, have been under tests over a long period of years at the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun. Some of these have proved to be very efficient preservatives but either on account of their high cost, or for some other reason, not one has fulfilled all the conditions required of the perfect preservative. The ideal preservative must in the first place be efficient, more especially as a deterrent against termites, fungi and boring insects. It must also be permanent and cheap. It must not corrode iron or other metals, and if, in addition, wood treated with it can be painted or polished, it is nearing the point of being a perfect preservative. No preservative discovered prior to 1931 fulfilled all these conditions, but in that year the discovery of "Falkamesam", which was essentially an arsenic preservative in which the arsenic was "fixed" in wood by chromium salts, attracted the attention of the Forest Research Institute as approaching the standard of an ideal preservative. No sooner had attention been centred on "Falkamesam" than the discovery brought out an improvement by adding copper sulphate to the mixture and 'fixing" the two toxic

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

principles (arsenic and copper) by means of a specific percentage of chromium salts. This new preservative was called ASCU (As-arsenic, Cu-copper) and as it had every indication of approaching the ideal preservative it was investigated very thoroughly by the Forest Research Institute."

Five and a half years after the invention this book was published and issued. No research institute can give guarantee for the life of timber treated with any preservative. Again, in the memorandum that has been referred to by the honourable member as issued recently by the Forest Research Institute. I might say that now I am a permanent Wood Preservation officer of the Government of India at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

Although it is 3 years since I vacated it to take up other appointments first charge of the Timber Development Branch at the Research Institute, and later, to come here, nobody has been appointed in my place, which is still shown as vacant. The memorandum on Ascu has been not well written. There has been no such officer or Department before my appointment. That is why some palpable criticism has arisen with regard to this. I shall circulate copies of this memorandum to all the members of this House and then they could see that there is not a single statement in it to show that the timber properly treated with Ascu failed in 7 years.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Then what does it say?

DR. S. KAMESAM: All that it says is that new factors have come to the notice as a result of some failures in the Punjab. From this one could gather that the poles referred to there should have lasted for at least $5\frac{1}{2}$ years but actually they failed within $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 years. The reason why they failed was that the penetration of Ascu and ascu contents of these treated poles was very shallow and much lower than the Forest Research Institute recommended. The memorandum is, therefore, highly misleading as it is impossible to learn of any new factors for poles which failed within two years due to an obvious cause.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: May I know whether the Honourable Member is aware that one Rao Bahadur Neelakanta Aiyar has issued a pamphlet condemning the Ascu treatment of timber?

DR. S. KAMESAM: I am not concerned with what not one but one thousand Nilakanta Aiyar's have said about Ascu. I depend upon the judgment of those who are competent to judge in the field and in the laboratory. The suitability of my preservative has been recognised by eminent and distinguished scientists who work in the line and by distinguished commercial corporations and magnates both in America and Europe. The Americans are not fools to accept something coming from India and pay me a lakh of rupees for permission to use my invention and use it for treating only electrical poles. One foreign company has offered me Rs. 85,000 for the right of using this patent in America for building and other timber. I depend upon the judgment of competent men and not upon the opinion of retired officers like Rao Bahadur Nilakanta Aiyar who have not handed a test tube and who have no capacity to question or to criticise.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Dr. S. Kamesam]

Then as regards the point raised by my friend Mr. Kochukora Tharakan I have to say only this much. True, we have got really durable timbers like Thambakam and Thembavu. The life of these timbers can be prolonged if they are properly treated. The efficiency of the preservative poison which is already in them can be added to by treatment. Hundreds of experiments have shown that any porous timber properly treated under pressure is more durable than the most naturally durable timber. Honourable members are aware what life is given by thick teak poles in British Cochin. Not more than 5 years we are using comparatively very thin sapling treated. So far as the treatment by creosote is concerned this is what the Research Institute says:—

"In Dehra Dun, for example, there are definitely two separate species of fungi which can frequently be found on wood which has been pressure treated with creosote a few years previously".

If this was in one small town of India, what about the rest of India? There must be hundreds of such fungi. In spite of this creosote was recommended by the Institute without any qualification.

Ascu was recommended without any qualification by the Institute. This recommendation was accepted and acted upon by several States in India. In Kashmere there are two plants for Ascu treatment in Jodpur there is one, in Patiala also there is one. The Governments of U. P. and Orissa have installed plants for Ascu treatment of timber. The Governments of Mayurbhany and Bastar States have two Ascu plants The Governments of Madras and Orissa have three or four Ascu treating plants. The Port Trusts of Madras, Vizagapattam and Bombay have adopted this treatment of wood. Mysore possess 3 plants for treating timber with Ascu. Sir, I do not depend upon the verdict of this Assembly for my technical status or for my job. It is entirely open to them to say whether they want my services here or not and whether they want Acsu or not.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know the relative cost of treated timber and untreated timber?

DR. S. KAMESAM: The cost of untreated timber is Re. 1 and 2 annas for an average hard timber like Murthi. The cost of treatment is about 4 to 5 annas for timber. The cost of treated timber comes to not more than Re. 1 and 12 annas.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether the P. W. D. is charged for the treated timber bridges?

DR. S. KAMESAM: An agreement has been reached between myself and the Chief Engineer in this respect. The P. W. D. do the sub-structure and the Development Department supply the super-structure. The actual installation will be done by the P. W. D.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether the amount asked for the construction of the rural bridges include the P. W. part of the work also?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

DR. S. KAMESAM: Yes, Sir. The estimate is given for three bridges, one at Samburvadakarai, one at Panayancherry near Anchal, and the third at Chanthanthurai which will be completed for Rs. 9,000 and the rest is available for several cart and foot bridges.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the spans and the pillars of the Thottapalli bridge are not made of teak wood?

DR. S. KAMESAM: Yes Sir. I was constrained to use teak in a large proportion in the construction of the bridge because I wanted to complete the bridge urgently due to the visit of the Viceroy. There was no time to collect and treat maruthy.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether those spans and pillars have undergone this Ascu treatment?

DR. S. KAMESAM: That is a very interesting question for me to answer Sir. In the case of teak the durability is there whether we treat it or not In the case of maruthy, treatment gives better durability than that of teak. The medicine does not penetrate into the teak wood. In spite of this if properly cared for it would last for 25 to 30 years.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the total percentage of the materials in the Thottapalli bridge which are untreated?

DR. S. KAMESAM: Except for the rim where I used treated timber maruthy, the rest is of untreated teak.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know at least the approximate percentage of the materials that have undergone this ascu treatment in the Thottapalli bridge?

DR. S. KAMESAM: It is only 15 per cent of the materials that have undergone treatment.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I take it that only the planks in the construction of the platform have undergone treatment?

DR. S. KAMESAM: No Sir, it is only the rib timbers but mechanically that is the most important part of the bridge. These ribs fall from a height of about 30 feet and these secure ribs were used again in the final structure.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANAN PILLAI: Were all the materials used for the construction of the Thottappally Bridge, except the fifteen percent of Ascu treated Maruthy, teak materials?

DR. S. KAMESAM: Yes.

Mr. Janardhanan Pillai has referred to my getting the terms of business only from one sports firm. I was corresponding with very many firms such as the Imperial Company, Kukraja Coy, Uberoi & Co. etc., for about a year and I have got a big file regarding the subject. Three of them unfortunately declined to have anything to do with Travancore and there was only one firm that came forward to accept the proposal of establishing a factory here, and that is the Northland Sports Works, Sailkot. Considering other States, because I have had

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Dr. S. Kamesam]

experience and went on deputation as Timber Expert in other States like Mysore, Gwalior, Kashmir, Mayurbhany and Bhopal, etc., I feel that what we have given to this Company is not very much. The agreement is not as you have suggested to pay a minimum of Rs. 3,000, but it is a maximum of Rs. 3,000. Honourable members would do well to look at the clauses of agreement. There is a clause which runs as follows:

"That the account books of the factory shall be open to inspection by the Government representative as and when necessary".

Then again, "The Government shall have a voice in fixing the salaries of employees, the expenses incurred by the Company in running the factory".

The company agree that in case Government advice regarding expenditure or other matters is not accepted, it will be open to Government to give six months' notice for the termination of this agreement, at the same time if the Company feels that Government are unduly interfering with their activities, it will be open to them to give six months' notice to Government and close down the factory".

We have done everything possible to protect ourselves consistent with the possibility of their working satisfactorily in this place. We cannot expect the Sailkot people to come over all the way from there to here and work with no facility being given to them. They are not coming here to lose money. If they don't lose, we need not pay anything. On the other hand, they give the Government 5 per cent. of their profits. They are investing money on machinery and if they are losing they will get nothing out of the concern and it is only up to a maximum of Rs. 3,000 that you are giving them. Further, you have got full control over the concern. If they have a gain, we get five per cent. on it and if they lose, you are not affected; it will be like "Heads I win" "tails you lose".

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know your answer with regard to Mr. Janardhanan Pillai's statement that you are purchasing the chemicals required by your Department from a Company which has got your patent?

DR. S. KAMESAM: Sir, it is entirly wrong to say so. Ascu chemicals consist of Potassium dichromate copper sulphate, and arsenic pentoxide.

These are sold by the Imperial Chemical Industries (India) Ltd. Cochin, and other well-known manufacturers and sellers of chemicals. The Stores Purchase Committee actually purchase the chemicals after calling for tenders for each individual chemical and, as a matter of fact, if the chemicals had been orded from the Imperial Chemical Industries, we would not have been left in the lurch. They were ordered from a German firm. There is no question of any individual making any profit on that.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 46,705 under demand XX—Forests (including Director of Development) under the heads referred to in the printed paper before the House, was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 50,000 under Demand No. XXVII—Stationery and Printing,

I shall briefly explain why the additional grant is applied for. As usual, a sum of Rs. 40,000 was provided in the budget of the Government Press for the current year under "Printing of Malayalam Readers and Copy Books". At the time of the preparation of the budget estimate for the current year, for want of certain definite information, the grant under this item was put down as Rs. 40,000 provisionally. During 1114, besides the usual Malayalam Readers, about 40 items of new text books on various subjects were introduced and printed. 14 private firms were entrusted with the work of printing. But, for want of funds the expenditure on account of these could not be paid from the last year's budget provision itself. Consequently, a sum of Rs. 35,438 had to be paid for the printing done last year out of the current year's allotment. Therefore, the allotment for the current year has fallen short of the required amount and hence the necessity for this supplementary grant.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know who undertook to print these books?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: Several firms. Government invited tenders. A certain portion of the work was done in the Government Press and the other was done through fourteen firms.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഗവർമ്മൻറിൽനിന്നും ഈ അച്ചടിജോലി വേണ്ടെന്നുവയ്ക്കാൻ കാരണമെന്താണ്?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: പുസ്തകങ്ങൾ അധികമുണ്ടായിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും സമയമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടുമാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് പ്രൈവറ്റ് പുസ്തകളിൽക്കൂടി കൊടുത്ത ജോലി ചെയ്യിപ്പിച്ചാലെ സ്കൂൾ തുറക്കുന്നതിനു മുൻപ് എല്ലാ പുസ്തകങ്ങളും കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയുള്ളു എന്നു കണ്ടു.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: എന്നിട്ട് സ്കൂൾ തുറക്കുന്നതിനു മുമ്പ് എല്ലാ പുസ്തകങ്ങളും കൊടുത്തോ?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: കൊടുത്തു.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM Has the printing been already started for this year's requirments?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: The printing will be started soon. There is some stock left out of the books printed last year.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar.]

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 50,000 under Demand No. XXVII—Stationery and Printing was put and carried.

The grant was made.

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move that the report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Accounts for 1113 may be taken up for consideration.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether members first elected by this House to the Public Accounts Committee have had the opportunity of examining those accounts?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: Sir, I am afraid they had not the opportunity.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the reasons for such sad state of affairs?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: Before the expiry of the year, it was not possible to have the report ready. Unfortunatly, the Public Accounts Committee Report was ready at the beginning of this year only and hence it was not practicable to place it before the Committee which was elected in the year 1114

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know why there was delay in the preparation of the accounts?

MR. M. GOVINDA PILLAI: It appears that at various stages we had to get information from various departments and necessarily there was delay and Government feel sorry for such delay. They have however promised the Accounts Committee which met last month, that everything will be done to give them an opportunity to scrutinise the report for 1114 before the budget estimates for 1116 were presented to this House.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, before formally moving the motions tabled by me, I wish to make a few general observations on the report of the Public Accounts Committee for the year 1113.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You are at perfect liberty to do so.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: It is really gratifying to note that there is considerable improvement in the budget forecasting. While the savings amounted to 18·35 percent of the final aggregate grant in 1112, the savings amounted to only 10·21 percent in 1113 and there are sufficient justifiable reasons also for the saving thus made during the year under discussion and report. It is equally gratifying to note that there was no irregular reappropriation during the year under report. But, Sir, I am constrained to observe that the expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 1108 and the excess expenditure under total grant and unnecessary supplementary grants have been increasing from year to year in spite of the strong criticisms made and objections raised by this Legislature.

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